

## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A computer network system for trading derivatives comprising:

- (a) a network managing station;
- (b) one or more market maker stations;
- (c) one or more subscriber stations;
- (d) one or more Exchanges;

wherein the network managing station connects market makers and subscribers for making real time indicative quotes, issuing requests for quotes, obtaining binding quotes and wherein the market makers and subscribers are in communication with an Exchange for sending binding quotes and orders to the Exchange for clearing and confirming transactions.

2. (Currently amended) The network system of claim 1 wherein the network managing station matches a binding quote and an order and consummates a transaction at an one of the one or more Exchanges.

3. (Currently amended) A method for electronically trading derivatives comprising:

(a) providing a computer network ~~of~~ for electronic communication between at least one market makers, at least one subscribers, at least one network managing station and at least one exchange;

(b) making at least one query ~~queries~~ to one of the at least one market maker(s) by one of the at least one subscribers by way of (a) regarding the:

(1) valuation, and computation of such valuation, for at least one derivatives contracts for at least one derivative;

(2) valuation, and computation of such valuation, for buy, sell at least one combinations of the at least one derivative contracts; and

(3) quantity of ~~the a~~ bid and offer for (1) and (2).

(c) initiating by way of (a) an indication to trade by a one of the at least one subscriber to a one of the at least one market maker;

(d) receiving responses by a one of the at least one subscriber from a one

of the at least one market maker to the indication to trade by way of (a);

(e) accepting a response to an indication to trade by a one of the at least one subscriber by way of (a) thereby agreeing that the acceptance of the response to the indication to trade will be forwarded to the exchange as an order by the one of the at least one subscriber and a binding quote by a the one of the at least one market ~~maker.~~ maker;

(f) submitting a the binding quote to ~~the~~ one of the at least one Exchange by way of (a);

(g) matching and clearing the orders and binding quotes at the one of the at least one Exchange;

(h) confirming a trade to the one of the at least one subscriber and the one of the at least one market maker by way of (a); (a).

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4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one derivative is comprises a commodity contract.
  5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~queries~~ at least one query is ~~are~~ made to a plurality of market makers.
  6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 where the binding quotes and orders are sent to ~~the~~ a control station by way of (a) for matching and the at least one network managing station sends the matched binding quote and order to the one of the at least one Exchange for clearance.
  7. (Currently amended) A method for electronically trading derivatives comprising:
    - (a) providing a computer network ~~of~~ for electronic communication between at least one market makers, at least one subscribers, at least one network managing station and at least one exchange;
    - (b) submitting of a request for quote to ~~an~~ one of the at least one Exchange by way of (a) by ~~the~~ one of the at least one subscriber;
    - (d) submitting a binding quote to the one of the at least one Exchange by ~~the~~ one of the at least one market maker;

(e) submitting an order by way of (a) to ~~an~~ the one of the at least one Exchange by the one of the at least one subscriber;

(f) matching and clearing the orders and binding quotes at the one of the at least one Exchange; ~~and, and~~

(g) confirming a trade to the one of the at least one subscriber and the one of the at least one market maker by way of ~~(a);~~ (a).

8. (Currently amended) A method for electronically trading derivatives comprising:

(a) providing a computer network ~~of~~ for electronic communication between at least one market makers, at least one subscribers, at least one network managing station and at least one exchange;

(b) making at least one query ~~queries~~ to the at least one market maker(s) by one of the at least one subscribers by way of (a) regarding the:

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(1) valuation, and computation of such valuation, for at least one derivatives contracts;

(2) valuation, and computation of such valuation, for buy, sell at least one combinations of the at least one derivative contracts; and

(3) quantity of ~~the a~~ bid and offer for (1) and (2).

(c) initiating by way of (a) an indication to trade by a the one of the at least one subscriber to a one of the at least one market maker;

(d) receiving at least one responses by a the one of the at least one subscriber from a the one of the at least one market maker to the indication to trade by way of (a);

(e) submitting ~~of~~ a request for quote to ~~an~~ one of the at least one Exchange by way of (a) by the one of the at least one subscriber;

(f) submitting a binding quote to the one of the at least one Exchange by the one of the at least one market maker;

(g) submitting an order by way of (a) to ~~an~~ the one of the at least one Exchange;

(h) matching and clearing the orders and binding quotes at the one of the at least one Exchange; ~~and, and~~

(i) confirming a trade to the one of the at least one subscriber and one of the at least one market maker by way of (a).

9. (Currently amended) A method for electronically trading derivative instruments comprising the steps of:

receiving at least one non binding quote, wherein the non-binding quote provides an indication of a willingness to trade a corresponding derivative;

transmitting ~~the~~ a best of the at least one non binding quote to at least one market participants over a communication network;

receiving a request for binding quote for at least one derivative instrument from the at least one market participants over a the communication network;

transmitting the request for binding quote over a the communication network;

receiving at least one binding quotes in response to the transmitted request for binding quote; ~~and,~~ and

transmitting the at least one binding quotes to the at least one market participants.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the request for binding quote includes information identifying ~~the~~ a derivative of interest, and a requested quantity of the derivative of interest.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the at least one non binding quotes ~~are~~ is obtained from a matrix of bid and ask prices at different volatilities and different underlying prices.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of transmitting the best of the at least one non binding quote comprises aggregating ~~the~~ a volume associated with the at least one non binding quotes having ~~the~~ best bid and ask prices and transmitting the aggregate as the best of the at least one non binding quote.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of matching the at least one binding quotes and at least one orders.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the matching is performed on a price time priority basis.
15. (Currently amended) A method for electronically trading derivative instruments comprising the steps of: receiving and displaying indicative quote information for at least one derivative instrument, wherein the indicative quote information comprises at least the best bid and ask non binding prices for the at least one derivative instrument; transmitting a request for quote for one of the at least one derivative instrument; receiving a binding quote for the at least one derivative instrument.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the indicative quote information further comprises an associated quantity.
17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the step of transmitting a request for quote is performed by selecting the indicative quote on a display.
18. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the step of receiving a binding quote for the at least one derivative instrument comprises receiving the binding quote via an intermediate exchange.
19. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of displaying the binding quote.
20. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of transmitting an order in response to receiving the binding quote.
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